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NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 7

1 September 1948

1. The following members were present:

Dr. Appleton	State
Col. Van Wyk	Army
Cdr. Howell	Navy
Lt. Col. Gould	Air Force
25X1A9a [REDACTED]	CIA (Chairman)
	CIA

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2. The memorandum from the Joint Staff to the Director of Central Intelligence forwarding the revised NIS priority list and stating that the Joint Staff would like to have all studies in the "High Priority" category by 30 June 1952 was read to the members. It was pointed out that the official priority list is identical with the unofficial list, copies of which were recently distributed to the Agencies. BIG promised to have one or two copies of the official list distributed to the Agencies but pointed out that the list is TOP SECRET and would have to receive restricted circulation. It was also pointed out that the list is to be reflected in the production schedule, which will bear the classification of SECRET and thus can receive wider distribution.

3. It was explained that, in treating Section 25 ("Towns") for areas comprising several countries, the towns should be treated together by country within the section; and that, in discussing "Towns" in Section 20, the essence of Section 25 as a whole should appear. It was also explained that, in treating various portions of Chapter III, as, for example, railroads, it might be desirable to discuss as a whole a railroad system crossing several countries and then discuss in detail in each NIS relating to one of the countries the part of the system lying within that country.

4. It was pointed out that the Graphics Register, OCD, is now having printed a large library of photographs obtained from OSS, the British, and other sources and that this wealth of material should be exploited by the Agencies in the preparation of NIS. It was suggested that these facts should be given wide publication among analysts working, and to work, on NIS and that these analysts, in teams of reasonable numbers established by the coordinating staffs, visit the Graphics Register to see what is available and assist the Chief of the Register in developing a graphics library which will be of maximum use to all concerned. It was explained that arrangements for visiting the Register can be made by calling 25X1A9a [REDACTED] the Chief thereof.

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5. The subject of NIS base maps was discussed. It was pointed out that the current base map program on which Map Branch, CIA, is engaged in an interim one geared primarily to Chapter II and that the progress on base maps is generally ahead of that on Agency production for this Chapter. Now that the definite NIS production schedule is being formulated for all chapters, the Map Branch can make some alterations in its program but, obviously, the number of these possible alterations is not unlimited. Therefore, every effort should be made by the Agencies to work on areas which will require the minimum number of base maps at any given time.

6. It was explained that the suggested tentative NIS production schedule, copies of which were distributed to the members, had been prepared in accordance with the capability data previously submitted by the Agencies and with due regard for CIA capabilities. It was pointed out, however, that a better synchronizing of chapters than that shown on the draft was now in order. It was requested, therefore, that Army, as chapter coordinator for Chapters II, III, VII, and VIII, hold working level conferences to accomplish this synchronization (bearing in mind the matter of base maps discussed in Paragraph 5) for these chapters, particularly Chapters II and III.

7. State was requested to make a study of the areas and schedules being worked on by other Agencies and prepare its schedule so as to be as nearly consonant with the others as feasible and so as to require the minimum number of base maps for Chapters IV, V, and VI at any given time.

8. The Army member was requested to press the Chairman of the NIS Sub-committee for Chapter VII for completion of the detailed schedule for that Chapter.

9. The State Department member inquired as to the status of the special CIA demographic unit to be established in the Bureau of Census. The Chairman agreed to ascertain the answer to this question and announce it at the next meeting.

10. Responsibility for preparation of Subsection 93F was transferred from Army to Air Force and the "Allocations of Responsibility" were amended accordingly.

11. The meeting adjourned to be reconvened after the receipt in BIG of the synchronized schedules from Army and State. Prior to calling the meeting, BIG will harmonize the synchronized schedules with the base map program.

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G/Ba: [REDACTED] etc

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